COMMISSION HEARING OFFICER DIRECTIVE

HEARING B. Ra OFFICER:	ndall Dong			
UTILITIES MATTERS	\boxtimes	ORDER NO.	N/A	
MOTOR CARRIER MATTER	s 🗆	DOCKET NO.	2008-325-C 2008-326-C 2008-327-C 2008-328-C 2008-329-C	
ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS		DATE	December 11, 2008	

DOCKET DESCRIPTION:

Application of Time-Warner Cable Information Services (South Carolina), LLC, d/b/a Time Warner Cable to Amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Provide Telephone Services in the Service Areas of Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Fort Mill Telephone Co., Home Telephone Co., PBT Telecom, Inc., and Rock Hill Telephone Co., and for Alternative Regulation

MATTERS UNDER CONSIDERATION:

Motions of Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Fort Mill Telephone Co., Home Telephone Co., PBT Telecom, Inc., and Rock Hill Telephone Co. to Consolidate Hearings in Docket Nos. 2008-325-C through 2008-329-C.

HEARING OFFICER ACTION:

This matter comes before the Hearing Officer on the motions of Farmers Telephone Cooperative, Inc., Fort Mill Telephone Co., Home Telephone Co., PBT Telecom, Inc., and Rock Hill Telephone Co. to consolidate the above-referenced dockets for hearing. Because Time Warner has withdrawn its application for authority to provide telecommunications services in the service area of St. Stephen Telephone Company, Inc., the motion filed by St. Stephen is moot.

Commission Regulation No. 103-840 authorizes the Commission to order two or more proceedings involving a similar question of law or fact to be consolidated for hearing where rights of the parties or the public interest will not be prejudiced by such procedure. The Hearing Officer finds that the subject dockets involve common questions of law or fact, that judicial economy would be served by consolidation of these dockets for hearing, and that no prejudice to any party will result from such consolidation. The Hearing Officer's Directive as to consolidation of these matters does not in any way affect the authority of the Commission or the Hearing Officer to order the severance or bifurcation of one or more of the dockets if the positions of the parties become so divergent as to make such action necessary or appropriate.